THE ORGANS FVNERALL

OR THE QUIRISTERS LAMENTATION FOR THE ABOLISHMENT Of Superstition and Superstitious Ceremonies.

In a Dialogicall Discourse between a Quirister and an Organist. *An. Dom.* 1642.

London, printed for *George Kirby*.

120524
08

The Queriſters Lamentation for the Aboliſhment of Superſtition and ſuperſtitious Ceremonies.

Queriſter.

WOe and alas, the day of abſolution is at hand whereby wee ſhall be freed from our ſinnes of ſuperſtition and worſhipping of God in his Service with ſuperfluous Ceremonies, which now is termed by many Idolatrous rags of Popery, the originall whereof they ſay came from the Pope, which is called Antichriſt, and introduced into our Church by the great Patriarch at *Lambeth*, which if a Parliament had not happned in the Climactericall yeare of his fall, and that he had but obtained the dignitie of a Cardinall, we might then have beene ſure of protection from his little Grace, and have beene by him defended, and maintained our meanes and revenues augmented not diminiſhed, and might have riſen to great preferment; but now all theſe our hopes are fruſtrate, our grand Patron of our infirmities is in Limbo, his little

his [illegible]r is now coverted to great disgrace, which if he had had but the knowledge to predicted his fate, he would have endeavoured to have prevented it. But he was it seemes so confident of his power and safety in his place of dignity, that if *Augustus Cesar* had been now to warre against him, he could not be vanquished. But wee may see how vaine a thing it is to trust in riches, in friends, or in the favour of princes in the time of danger, for nothing is able to defend from the just vengeance of God, against hainous transgressors and offendours: And if wee had but thought in the least manner of these times, wee would have been more cautious in seeking the favour of great men, and submitting our selves to their wills be they never so refractory from that which is good, for hopes of a little preferment, but truly I thought as I was taught that it was no sinne to use Ceremonies, but that they were things of an indifferent quality, and might be used without offence, but one comfort is I could not be brought to conceive the exercise of them to be of absolute necessity to salvation, as some of the learned prelates would have it, but a thing that might be aswell refused as used, yet I could never have the power to refuse the use of them, for that preferment had the predominance in my braine, and I conceived it better to live in some good fashion, pleasing to men, then in disgrace and disfavour of the higher powers,

daily

daily in danger by them to be questioned and sentenced to be pillored and lose my eares, nay and perchance fined and banished, or perpetuall imprisonment, in good-sooth I loved my reputation, eares, money and liberty better then so. But now the current of the streame runnes in another channell, I must goe with the tyde, least now on the other side I may be in as much danger as I was before, for using those Ceremonies in the exercise of Religion is the best way to save my place, or to have some meanes allowed mee for the maintenance of my selfe, wife, and children, for which purpose I might have in the time I have been preferred to this place, furnished my selfe with sufficient monies which I have gotten by the by besides my yearely pension for singing; as for teaching to sing young Artists in that Science, and other wayes, but that I was too much given to the Taverne and Ale-house, yea, and to play now and then at Venus Game with loving Citizens wives, whom I would almost perswade I could procure pardon for that offence But those joyes are gone, I must now betake my selfe to another course of life, or else I doubt I shall fare as those doe in the Gatehouse: But what thinke you, will Organs and singing be put downe as well as Ceremonies.

Organist.

I Organist: Truly I have heard there are many enemies towards us, as to you, and strive hard to bring us to destruction, so that our Ancient and famous Sound may be no more heard in this famous Iland of *England*, which hath beene glorious for Zeale and Devotion in religion all over Europe: But yet we hold up and use our profession without contradiction, which I hope will still be continued as a decent and comely thing in the Church, and a remembrance of the Ordinances of the Law, and serves fitly to shew that we acknowledge in our religion aswell the Law as the Gospel, and agrees well to the retunying of both Testaments in print in this Kingdome, and that wee esteeme not one above the other, which is *contrarius*; and I thinke Brother singer your profession will hold still.

Querist: If that continues I care not, for let them doe what they will with Ceremonies, I can aswell sing without a Surplice or black Hood and Tippet, or Cope, or any other Implement whatsoever, if it shall be so thought fit and commanded, for I am of the same religion with the Parliament and the State; If they command I will obey; and if there were no Parliament, then the greatest in Authority in the State I would obey right or wrong, it's the best policie to serve the times, and change with the wind, for by that meanes I may be safe when others are questioned, at home in peace and security when others

for

for their Conſpiracy, are one time or another, be they in the true or falſe way, troubled and oppreſſed; therefore my ſtudy and endeavour ſhall be to keep my ſelf as much as I can, at all times, and upon all occaſions from danger.

Organs. Wel Brother we wil talke more concerning this buſineſſe at this time, but referre the ſame till wee heare more, and then wee will adviſe with our Beſt wits what courſe it will be beſt for us to take.

Quriſt. Let us then ſo doe. Farewell.

Wee

Wee may now abjure our singing,
For Ceremonies bringing
Into the Church, and ringing
For the downfall of the Organs,
Alas poore Organs.

A Quirister may hang himselfe,
For wanting his diviner pelfe,
He's ta'en now for a Clergy Elfe,
Being drown'd in Superstition,
Alas fond superstition.

The Wren *is now defil'd in's nest,*
And signed with the marke o'th Beast,
And [illegible] for a Lent Feast,
Which made him seeme a regulus.
Alas poore regulus.

Let Ceremonies then deplore
Their Fortune greater then before,
Downe Idols, Crosses, Ceremonies,
Alas poore Ceremonies:

FINIS.

APR 11 1908